

## Message Text

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ACTION ARA-06

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SS-14 SSO-00 SAB-01 PM-03 SP-02 L-01

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FM AMEMBASSY PANAMA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 4540

C O N F I D E N T I A L PANAMA 4304

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LIMDIS

ARA/PAN FOR AMBASSADOR JORDEN AND MINISTER BELL

EO 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR, PN, PQ

SUBJ: DESIRE OF CANAL ZONE GOVENOR TO DISCUSS CANAL TREATY  
DETAILS WITH KEY AUDIENCES

REF: STATE 167979

1. GOVENOR PARFITT, WHO AT PRC MEETINGS AND OTHER OCCA-  
SIONS SINCE HIS ARRIVAL HAS EXPRESSED HIS WISH TO BE AS  
FORTHCOMING AS POSSIBLE ON TREATY NEGOTIATIONS WITH PCC/  
CZG PERSONNEL, SENT A REPRESENTATIVE (FSO HAROLD EISNER)  
TO DISCUSS WITH ME HIS PROFOUND CONCERN OVER EFFECT IN  
ZONE OF RECENT GOP DISCLOSURE OF NEGOTIATION DETAILS.  
AT AN EARLY DATE, GOVENOR WOULD LIKE TO APPRISE KEY  
AUDIENCES, E.G., CIVIC COUNCIL AND UNION LEADERS, AT  
LEAST AS MUCH OF THE NEGOTIATING DETAILS WHICH GOP HAS  
ALREADY REVEALED. HIS PRESENTATION WOULD BE BASED ON  
MARCH MEMORANDUM FROM GOVENOR PARFITT TO ARMY SECRETARY  
CALLAWAY, A COPY OF WHICH I AM TOLD WAS SENT TO AMBASSADOR  
BUNKER.

2. PRESENTATION WOULD INCLUDE EXPLANATION OF ACCURACY  
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OF JULY 16 MIAMI HERALD STORY AND USE OF MAPS PREPARED

FOR LANDS AND WATER TALKS. GOVENOR JUSTIFIES USE OF MAPS ON BASIS FBIS REPORT THAT GOP USED MAPS DURING JULY 8 MEETING WITH STUDENTS. HOWEVER, SINCE MAPS ENTAIL MILITARY AREAS, SUCH PRESENTATION WOULD BE COORDINATED WITH SOUTHCOM. GOVENOR DOES NOT PROPOSE TO ENTER INTO DETAILS WHERE GOP AVOIDED SPECIFICS, FOR EXAMPLE, SOFA. GOVENOR WOULD PREFER PRESENTATION TO BE MADE BY STATE DEPARTMENT, PRESUMABLY AN EMBASSY OFFICER BUT IS PREPARED TO HAVE LT. GOVENOR MAKE PRESENTATION, WHICH COULD BE ORAL OR WRITTEN. I BELIEVE THERE IS SOME PREFERENCE FOR WRITTEN DOCUMENT.

3. GOVENOR DESIRES TO ACT PROMPTLY AND INTENDS TO PROPOSE ABOVE COURSE OF ACTION IN TELEGRAM TO AMBASSADOR KOREN ON FRIDAY, JULY 18. HE IS AIMING FOR INITIAL PRESENTATION AT CIVIC COUNCIL MEETING TUESDAY, JULY 22. BEFORE SENDING HIS TELEGRAM TO KOREN, GOVENOR WISHED TO HAVE MY VIEWS.

4. I TOLD EISNER THAT POSITION OF EMBASSY BEST DESCRIBED IN MESSAGE TO ME FROM BUNKER AND ROGERS (REFTEL), A COPY OF WHICH I PROVIDED FOR GOVENOR. WHILE RECOGNIZING UNFORTUNATE IMPACT OF GOP ACTION AND MIAMI HERALD STORY ON CANAL ZONE RESIDENTS, I EXPRESSED OPINION THAT DAMAGE TO NEGOTIATIONS COULD STILL BE LIMITED BY NOT ENCOURAGING FURTHER SPECULATION ON ALLEGED US AND PANAMANIAN POSITIONS. EISNER DID NOT BELIEVE GOVENOR WOULD BE SWAYED BY THESE ARGUMENTS AND THINKS GOVENOR WILL PROCEED WITH HIS RECOMMENDATION TO IMPLEMENT AN INFORMATION CAMPAIGN IN CANAL ZONE.  
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